



DOCKET NO: 203218US6RE

#9/Election  
5/1/04  
a.d.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

KAZUNORI OZAWA, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: V. CHAWAN

SERIAL NO: 09/767,811

:

FILED: JANUARY 23, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2654

FOR: AUDIO TRANSMISSION,  
RECORDING AND REPRODUCING  
SYSTEM

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Technology Center 2600

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Official Action dated March 17, 2004, Applicants in the above-identified patent application provisionally elect with traverse Invention I, Claims 1-54, drawn to recording and reproducing of audio signals.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement based upon MPEP § 803 which states:

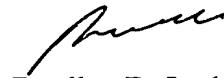
... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully **traverse** the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

However, if the present Restriction Requirement is not withdrawn, examination on the merits of the Claims of Invention I is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/03)

BDL/NJK/kad



Docket No.: 203218US6RE

**OBLON**  
**SPIVAK**  
**McCLELLAND**  
**MAIER**  
**&**  
**NEUSTADT**  
P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BRADLEY D. LYTHE  
(703) 412-6489  
BLYTHE@OBLON.COM

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Technology Center 2600

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/767,811

Applicants: Kazunori OZAWA, et al.

Filing Date: January 23, 2001

For: AUDIO TRANSMISSION, RECORDING AND  
REPRODUCING SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2654

Examiner: V. CHAWAN

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Bradley D. Lytle  
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

**22850**

(703) 413-3000 (phone)  
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

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